

LEN

which are lodged hard seeds, surrounded by a thick fleshy substance, which, for the most part, is full of an acid juice. There are many varieties of this tree, and the fruit is yearly imported from Lisbon in great plenty. *Miller.*

LEMONA'DE. *n. f.* [from *lemon*.] Liquor made of water, sugar, and the juice of lemons.

Thou, and thy wife, and children, should walk in my gardens, buy toys, and drink lemonade. *Arbut. J. Bull.*

TO LEND. *v. a.* [Lēnan, Saxon; *leenen*, Dutch.]

1. To afford, on condition of repayment.

Thou shalt not give him thy money upon usury, nor lend him thy victuals for increase. *Lev. xxv. 37.*

They dare not give, and e'en refuse to lend, To their poor kindred, or a wanting friend. *Dryden.*

2. To suffer to be used on condition that it be restored.

In common worldly things 'tis call'd ungrateful With dull unwillingness to pay a debt, Which, with a bounteous hand, was kindly lent; Much more to be thus opposite with heav'n. *Shakespeare.*

I'll lend it thee, my dear, but have no power to give it from me. *Shakespeare. All's well that ends well.*

The fair blessing we vouchsafe to lend; Nor can we spare you long, though often we may lend. *Dryden to the Dutchess of Ormond.*

3. To afford; to grant in general.

Covetousness, like the sea, receives the tribute of all rivers, though far unlike it in lending any back again. *Decay of Piety.*

Painting and poetry are two sisters so like, that they lend to each other their name and office: one is called a dumb poetry, and the other a speaking picture. *Dryden's Dispersed.*

From thy new hope, and from thy growing store, Now lend assistance, and relieve the poor. *Dryden's Pers.*

Cato, lend me for a while thy patience, And condescend to hear a young man speak. *Addison.*

Wilt lend a hand to close thy mistress' eyes. *A. Phillips.*

LE'NDER. *n. f.* [from *lend*.]

1. One who lends any thing.

2. One who makes a trade of putting money to interest.

Let the state be answered some small matter, and the rest left to the lender; if the abatement be but small, it will not discourage the lender: he that took before ten in the hundred, will sooner defend to eight than give over this trade. *Bacon's Essays.*

Whole droves of lenders crowd the bankers doors To call in money. *Dryden's Spanish Friar.*

Interest would certainly encourage the lender to venture in such a time of danger. *Addison's Freeholder, N^o. 20.*

LENGTH. *n. f.* [from *long*, Saxon.]

1. The extent of any thing material from end to end; the longest line that can be drawn through a body.

There is in Ticinum a church that is in length one hundred feet, in breadth twenty, and in height near fifty: it reporteth the voice twelve or thirteen times. *Bacon.*

2. Horizontal extension.

Mezentius rushes on his foes, And first unhappy Acron overthrows; Stretch'd at his length he spins the swarthy ground. *Dryd.*

3. A certain portion of space or time.

Large lengths of seas and shores Between my father and my mother lay. *Shakespeare. K. John.*

To get from th' enemy, and Ralph, free; Left danger, fears, and foes, behind, And beat, at least three lengths, the wind. *Hudibras.*

Time glides along with undiscover'd haste, The future but a length beyond the past. *Dryden's Ovid.*

What length of lands, what oceans have you pass'd, What storms sustain'd, and on what shores been cast? *Dryd.*

4. Extent of duration.

Having thus got the idea of duration, the next thing is to get some measure of this common duration, whereby to judge of its different lengths. *Locke.*

5. Long duration or protraction.

May heav'n, great monarch, still augment your bliss With length of days, and every day like this. *Dryden.*

Such toil requir'd the Roman name, Such length of labour for so vast a frame. *Dryden's Zen.*

In length of time it will cover the whole plain, and make one mountain with that on which it now stands. *Addison.*

6. Reach or expansion of any thing.

I do not recommend to all a pursuit of sciences, to those extensive lengths to which the moderns have advanced them. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind, p. 1.*

7. Full extent; uncontracted state.

If Lætitia, who sent me this account, will acquaint me with the worthy gentleman's name; I will insert it at length in one of my papers. *Addison's Spectator, N^o. 40.*

8. Distance.

He had marched to the length of Exeter, which he had some thought of besieging. *Clarendon, b. viii.*

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9. End; latter part of any assignable time.

Churches purged of things burdensome, all was brought at the length into that wherein now we stand. *Hooker, b. iv.*

A crooked stick is not strained unless it be bent as far on the clear contrary side, that so it may settle itself at the length in a middle state of evenness between them both. *Hooker.*

10. At LENGTH. [It was formerly written *at the length*.] At last; in conclusion.

At length, at length, I have thee in my arms, Though our malevolent stars have struggled hard, And held us long asunder. *Dryden's King Arthur.*

TO LE'NGTHEN. *v. a.* [from *length*.]

1. To draw out; to make longer; to elongate.

Relaxing the fibres, is making them flexible, or easy to be lengthened without rupture. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

Falling dews with spangles deck'd the glade, And the low sun had lengthen'd ev'ry shade. *Pope.*

2. To protract; to continue.

Break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity. *Dan. iv. 27.*

Frame your mind to mirth and merriment, Which bars a thousand harms, and lengthens life. *Shakespeare.*

It is in our power to secure to ourselves an interest in the divine mercies that are yet to come, and to lengthen the course of our present prosperity. *Atterbury's Sermon.*

3. To protract pronunciation.

The learned languages were less constrained in the quantity of every syllable, besides helps of grammatical figures for the lengthening or abbreviation of them. *Dryden.*

4. To LENGTHEN out. [The particle *out* is only emphatical.] To protract; to extend.

What if I please to lengthen out his date A day, and take a pride to cozen fate. *Dryden's Aur.*

I'd hoard up every moment of my life, To lengthen out the payment of my tears. *Dryden.*

It lengthens out every act of worship, and produces more lasting and permanent impressions in the mind, than those which accompany any transient form of words. *Addison.*

TO LE'NGTHEN. *v. n.* To grow longer; to increase in length.

One may as well make a yard, whose parts lengthen and shrink, as a measure of trade in materials, that have not always a settled value. *Locke.*

Still 'tis farther from its end; Still finds its error lengthen with its way. *Prior.*

LE'NGTHWISE. *adv.* [length and wise.] According to the length.

LE'NIENT. *adj.* [leniens, Latin.]

1. Alleviative; softening; mitigating.

With study'd argument, and much persuasion fought, Lenient of grief and anxious thought. *Milton's Agonistes.*

In this one passion man can strength enjoy; Time, that on all things lays his lenient hand, Yet tames not this; it sticks to our last land. *Pope.*

2. Laxative; emollient.

Oils relax the fibres, are lenient, balsamick, and abate acrimony in the blood. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*

LE'NIENT. *n. f.* An emollient, or alleviative application.

I dressed it with lenients. *Wiseham's Surgery.*

TO LE'NIEN. *v. a.* [leniens, old French; *lenis*, Latin.] To alleviate; to mitigate.

It is used for squinancies and inflammations in the throat, whereby it seemeth to have a mollifying and lenifying virtue. *Bacon's Natural History, N^o. 534.*

All soft'ning simples, known of sov'reign use, He presses out, and pours their noble juice; These first infus'd, to lenify the pain, He tugs with pincers, but he tugs in vain. *Dryden.*

LE'NITIVE. *adj.* [lenitivus, Fr. *lenis*, Lat.] Alleviative; emollient.

Some plants have a milk in them; the cause may be an inception of putrefaction: for those milks have all an acrimony, though one would think they should be lenitive. *Bacon.*

There is alimēt lenitive expelling the feces without stimulating the bowels; such are animal oils. *Arbutnot.*

LE'NITIVE. *n. f.*

1. Any thing applied to ease pain.

2. A palliative.

There are lenitives that friendship will apply, before it would be brought to decretory rigours. *South's Sermons.*

LE'NTY. *n. f.* [lentitas, Lat.] Mildness; mercy; tenderness; softness of temper.

Henry gives consent, Of meer compassion, and of lenty, To ease your country. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*

Lenty must gain The mighty men, and please the discontent. *Daniel.*

Albeit so ample a pardon was proclaimed touching treason, yet could not the boldness be beaten down either with severity, or with lenty be abated. *Hayward.*

These jealousies Have but one root, the old imprison'd king, Whose

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Whose lenity first pleas'd the gaping crowd: But when long try'd, and found supinely good, Like Ætop's logs, they leapt upon his back. *Dryden.*

LENS. *n. f.*

A glass spherically convex on both sides, is usually called a lens; such as is a burning-glass, or spectacle-glass, or an object glass of a telescope. *Newton's Opticks.*

According to the difference of the lenses, I used various distances. *Newton's Opticks.*

LENT. *part. pass.* from *lend*.

By Jove the stranger and the poor are sent, And what to those we give, to Jove is lent. *Pope's Odyss.*

LENT. *n. f.* [lenten, the spring, Saxon.] The quadragesimal fast; a time of abstinence.

Lent is from springing, because it falleth in the spring; for which our progenitors, the Germans, use *glent*. *Camden.*

LE'NTEN. *adj.* [from *lent*.] Such as is used in lent; sparing.

My lord, if you delight not in man, what *lenten* entertainment the players shall receive from you. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*

She quench'd her fury at the flood, And with a *lenten* fallad cool'd her blood. *Dryden's Hind and Panther.*

Their commons, though but coarse, were nothing scant. *Dryden's Hind and Panther.*

LE'NTICULAR. *adj.* [lenticulaire, French.] Doubly convex; of the form of a lens.

The crystalline humour is of a lenticular figure, convex on both sides. *Ray on Creation.*

LENTIFORM. *adj.* [lens and forma, Latin.] Having the form of a lens.

LENTIGINOUS. *adj.* [from *lentigo*.] Scurfy; furfuraceous.

LENTIGO. *n. f.* [Latin.] A treckly or scurfy eruption upon the skin; such especially as is common to women in child-bearing. *Quincy.*

LENTIL. *n. f.* [lens, Latin; lentille, French.]

It hath a papilionaceous flower, the point of which becomes a short pod, containing orbicular seeds, for the most part convex; the leaves are conjugated, growing to one midrib, and are terminated by tendrils. *Miller.*

The Philistines were gathered together, where was a piece of ground full of lentils. *2 Sam. xxiii. 11.*

LENTISCK. *n. f.* [lentiscus, Latin; lentisque, French.]

Lentisk wood is of a pale brown colour, almost whitish, resinous, of a fragrant smell and acid taste: it is the wood of the tree which produces the mastic, and is esteemed astringent and balsamick in medicine. *Hill's Mat. Medica.*

Lentisk is a beautiful evergreen, the mastic or gum of which is of use for the teeth or gums. *Martimer's Husb.*

LENTITUDE. *n. f.* [from *lentus*, Latin.] Sluggishness; slowness. *DiG.*

LE'NTNER. *n. f.* A kind of hawk.

I should enlarge my discourse to the observation of the haggard, and the two sorts of lenners. *Walton's Angler.*

LENTOR. *n. f.* [lentor, Latin; leniens, French.]

1. Tenacity; viscosity.

Some bodies have a kind of *lentor*, and more deceptible nature than others. *Bacon.*

2. Slowness; delay.

The *lentor* of eruptions, not inflammatory, points to an acid cause. *Arbutnot on Diet.*

3. [In physics.] It expresses that fizy, viscid, coagulated part of the blood, which, in malignant fevers, obstructs the capillary vessels. *Quincy.*

LE'NTROUS. *adj.* [lentus, Latin.] Viscous; tenacious; capable to be drawn out.

In this spawn of a *lentous* and transparent body, are to be discerned many specks which become black, a substance more compact and terretitious than the other; for it riseth not in distillation. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. iii.*

LE'OD. *n. f.*

Lead signifies the people; or, rather, a nation, country, &c. Thus, *leadgar* is one of great interest with the people or nation. *Gilson's Camden.*

LE'OF. *n. f.*

Leof denotes love; so *leofwin* is a winner of love; *leofham*, best beloved: like these Agapetus, Erasmus, Philo, Amanus, &c. *Gilson's Camden.*

LE'ONINE. *adj.* [leoninus, Latin.]

1. Belonging to a lion; having the nature of a lion.

2. Leonine verses are those of which the end rhymes to the middle, so named from *Leo* the inventor: as, *Gloria factorum temere conceditur horum.*

LE'OPARD. *n. f.* [leo and pardus, Latin.] A spotted beast of prey.

Sheep run not half so tim'rous from the wolf, Or horle or oxen from the leopard, As you fly from your oft-fubdued slaves. *Shakespeare. Hen. VI.*

A leopard is every way, in shape and actions, like a cat: his head, teeth, tongue, feet, claws, tail, all like a cat's: he boxes with his fore-feet, as a cat doth her kittens; leaps at the prey, as a cat at a mouse; and will also spit much

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after the same manner: so that they seem to differ, just as a kite doth from an eagle. *Grew's Musæum.*

Before the king tame leopards led the way, And troops of lions innocently play. *Dryden.*

LE'PER. *n. f.* [lepra, leprosus, Latin.] One infected with a leprosy.

I am no leathsome leper; look on me. *Shakespeare.*

The leper in whom the plague is, his cloaths shall be rent. *Lev. xiii. 45.*

The number of their lepers was very great. *Hakewill.*

LE'PEROUS. *adj.* [Formed from *leprosus*, to make out a verse.] Causing leprosy; infected with leprosy; leprous.

Upon my secure hour thy uncle stole; With juice of curfed hebenon in a viol, And in the porches of mine ears did pour The leperous distilment. *Shakespeare's Hamlet.*

LE'PORINE. *adj.* [leporinus, Lat.] Belonging to a hare; having the nature of a hare.

LEPROSITY. *n. f.* [from *leprosus*.] Squamous disease.

If the crudities, impurities, and leprosities of metals were cured, they would become gold. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*

LE'PROSY. *n. f.* [lepra, Latin; lepre, French.] A loathsome distemper, which covers the body with a kind of white scales. Itches, blains,

Sow all the Athenian bosoms, and their crop Be general leprosy. *Shakespeare. Timon of Athens.*

It is a plague of leprosy. *Lev. xiii. 3.*

Between the malice of my enemies and other mens mistakes, I put as great a difference as between the itch of novelty and the leprosy of disloyalty. *King Charles.*

Authors, upon the first entrance of the pox, looked upon it so highly infectious, that they ran away from it as much as the Jews did from the leprosy. *Wiseham's Surgery.*

LE'TROUS. *adj.* [lepra, Latin; lepreux, French.] Infected with a leprosy.

The silly amorous fucks his death, By drawing in a leprous harlot's breath. *Donne.*

LE'RE. *n. f.* [leere, Saxon; *leere*, Dutch.] A lesson; lore; doctrine. This sense is still retained in Scotland.

The kid pitying his heaviness, Asked the cause of his great distress; And also who, and whence, that he were, Though he that had well ycond his *lere*, Thus melled his talk with many a teare. *Spenser.*

LE'RRY. [from *lere*.] A rating; a lecture. rustick word.

LESS. A negative or privative termination. [leas, Saxon; *loos*, Dutch.] Joined to a substantive, it implies the absence or privation of the thing expressed by that substantive: as, a witless man, a man without wit; *childless*, without children; *fatherless*, deprived of a father; *penniless*, wanting money.

LESS. *adj.* [leas, Saxon.] The comparative of little: opposed to greater.

Mary, the mother of James the less. *Mar. xv. 40.*

Yet could he not his closing eyes withdraw, Though less and less of Emily he saw. *Dryden.*

He that thinks he has a positive idea of infinite space will find, that he can no more have a positive idea of the greatest than he has of the least space; for in this latter we are capable only of a comparative idea of smallness, which will always be less than any one whereof we have the positive idea. *Locke.*

All the ideas that are considered as having parts, and are capable of increase by the addition of any equal or less parts, affords us, by their repetition, the idea of infinity. *Locke.*

'Tis less to conquer, than to make wars cease, And, without fighting, awe the world to peace. *Hallifax.*

LESS. *n. f.* Not so much; opposed to more.

They gathered some more, some less. *Exod. xvi. 17.*

Thy servant knew nothing of this, less or more. *1 Sam.*

LESS. *adv.* In a smaller degree; in a lower degree.

This opinion presents a less merry, but not less dangerous, temptation to those in adversity. *Decay of Piety.*

The less space there is betwixt us and the object, and the more pure the air is, by so much the more the species are preserved and distinguished; and, on the contrary, the more space of air there is, and the less it is pure, so much the more the object is confused and embroiled. *Dryden.*

Their learning lay chiefly in flourish; they were not much wiser than the less pretending multitude. *Collier on Pride.*

The less they themselves want to receive from others, they will be less careful to supply the necessities of the indigent. *Snalbridge's Sermons.*

Happy, and happy still, she might have prov'd, Were she less beautiful, or less belov'd. *Pope's Statius.*

TO LESSEN. *v. a.* [from *less*.]

1. To diminish in bulk.

2. To diminish in degree of any quality.

Kings may give To beggars, and not lessen their own greatness. *Denham.*

Though